

## **FISCAL UPDATE News Article**

Fiscal Services Division
August 1, 2016



## IOWA COLLABORATIVE SAFETY NET PROVIDER NETWORK LEADERSHIP AND ADVISORY GROUP MEETING

**Meeting.** The lowa Collaborative Safety Net Provider Network, a legislatively created partnership of lowa community health centers, free clinics, family planning clinics, and rural health clinics, held a leadership and advisory group meeting on June 10, 2016, at the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden. Following are highlights from the meeting.

**Updates from Safety Net Grantees.** Jon Rossman from SafeNetRX provided an update on the group's Prescription Drug Donation Program. The Program received over 250,000 out-of-state donations, including several specialty medications for cancer patients. SafeNetRX was awarded \$75,000 to contract with pharmacies for the purpose of providing free and low-cost prescriptions for uninsured and underinsured patients. Additionally, SafeNetRX's Behavioral Health Medication Voucher Program was able to provide 30-day supplies of behavioral health medications for patients being seen at federally qualified health centers. The organization plans to meet with Department of Human Services (DHS) Director Charles Palmer to discuss more options for prescription drug assistance.

Free Clinics of Iowa noted that one of the organization's largest funding sources is state funding through the Safety Net Provider Network. The majority of free clinics operate on an annual budget of \$2,000-\$5,000, and there is a network of 1,200 volunteers across the state. Free Clinics of Iowa has recently migrated to an electronic records system to house patient files and data.

lowa CASA has been able to train 130 volunteers and deploy 100 of those volunteers in rural areas, where there had previously been little to no coverage. Iowa CASA hired a Statewide Coordinator to organize regional meetings and serve as a liaison between the organization and hospitals providing intake and treatment services for victims.

**Behavioral Health Integration.** The Behavioral Health Association is planning for a summit to take place on September 22, 2016. The event will focus on economic and clinical perspectives surrounding behavioral health treatment and outcomes. Grantees will be asked to focus on a short-term barrier to service delivery that can be addressed within a six-month to one-year time frame.

**State Innovation Model.** The Department of Human Services provided an update regarding the State Innovation Model and the \$43.1 million federal grant being awarded over a four-year period. Iowa is one of several states receiving the <a href="State Innovation Model Testing Grant">State Innovation Model Testing Grant</a>. The State Innovation Model initiative seeks ways to improve health system quality and lower costs.

**Next Meeting.** The next meeting is scheduled for September 9, 2016, at the Des Moines Botanical Garden.

STAFF CONTACT: Angel Banks-Adams (515-281-6301) <a href="mailto:angel.banks-adams@legis.iowa.gov">angel.banks-adams@legis.iowa.gov</a>